

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are requested.

Applicant's election of Group I, Species B was not entirely without traverse. Applicant disagrees that there is no claim that is generic as to species B. Claim 1 is generic as to claims 2-10 for the reasons explained in Applicant's replies filed on 11-9-2006 and 2-8-2007.

Claims 1-2 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Fishman (5,781,581). Applicant respectfully submits that Fishman '581 does not teach or suggest all elements of independent claim 1 as amended.

The invention is an apparatus for induction heating pieces or blanks which comprises a device for creating a static magnetic field which comprises at least one coil, means for applying a direct current to the at least one coil, and a device for causing relative rotation between the piece or blank and the static magnetic field so that current is induced in the piece or blank which is thereby heated.

Fishman '581 describes an induction heating apparatus which includes a coil (14) to which alternating current is applied (see col. 3, lines 6-8) and a vessel (12) surrounded by, but spaced from, the coil and which can be moved axially with respect to the coil (see Fig. 2).

Unlike the claimed invention, however, Fishman '581 does not teach an apparatus having a coil to which a direct current is applied and a device for causing relative rotation between the piece or blank and the static magnetic field to thereby inductively heat the piece or blank.

Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Fishman '581, and applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 – and all claims depending therefrom – be withdrawn. Furthermore, as claim 1 is generic as to withdrawn claims 4-5, applicant requests that claims 4-5 be reinstated. In this regard, note that the specification explains, at the bottom of page 6, that device for creating the magnetic field may comprise a combination of permanent magnets and windings/coils.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims satisfy the requirements of the patent statutes and are patentable over the cited art. Reconsideration of the instant application and early notice of allowance are requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if it is deemed to expedite allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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